

Patent Appl. Ser. No. 09/623,847
Group Art Unit: 3671

REMARKS

Claims 1-6, 8-52 and 85-87 are pending in the application. Applicants have amended claims 1, 10 and 18. Claim 7 has been cancelled. Claims 53-84 and 88 have been withdrawn based on election/restriction response filed on 9/28/2004. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of this application is respectfully requested in light of the amendments and the foregoing remarks.

1. Election/Restriction

Claims 53-84 and 88 have been withdrawn based on election/restriction response filed on 9/28/2004.

2. Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph

The Examiner has objected to claims 10-12 and 18 are rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claims 10 and 18 have been amended to remove the vague and indefinite recitations of "preferably between 20 and 30 degrees" and "preferably between 2.5 and 4 cm" within each claim respectively. It is believed that this rejection, as it might be applied to the amended claims has been overcome and withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested. .

3. Objection to the claims

Claims 1-6, 29, 45, 47, 48 and 51 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Canadian reference '050 alone. Applicant has

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amended claim 1 to incorporate the limitations of claim 7. Claim 7 was thus cancelled. Examiner stated Claim 7 was allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

4. Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 85-87 are allowed.

Claims 7-9, 13-17, 19-28, 30-44, 46, 49, 50 and 52 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicant has amended claim 1 to incorporate the limitations of claim 7. Claim 7 was thus cancelled. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

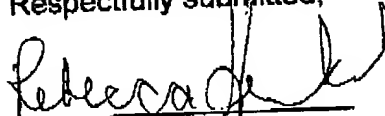
It is submitted that Claims 1-6, 8-52 and 85-87 are in compliance with 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103 and defines patentable subject matter. A Notice of Allowance is therefore respectfully requested.

No fees are due with this communication. Nevertheless, should the Examiner consider any fees to be payable in conjunction with this or any future communication, authorization is given to direct payment of such fees, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 03-1025.

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The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it
would help expedite matters.

Respectfully submitted,



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